

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 4-33 are pending in this application. Claim 2 was previously canceled. Claim 3 is canceled by this Amendment without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter therein. Claim 1 is amended to incorporate that subject matter. Claim 4 is amended to depend from claim 1.

In section 3 on pages 2-9, the Office Action rejects claims 1, 3-14, 16-29 and 31-33 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/164256 to Togashi. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants note that Togashi does not appear to have been made of record in this case. In view of the Examiner's reliance on this reference in rejecting the claims, Applicants request that the reference be officially made of record in the case by the Examiner in the next Office Action.

Claim 1, from which the remaining claims depend, recites that "said lead parts are formed so as to be lead out to only one surface of said electric body." In contradistinction, Togashi discloses lead parts led out to two or more surfaces of dielectric body. The Office Action states "Togashi discloses said lead parts are formed so as to be led out to only one surface of said dielectric body (See Fig. 3)." However, lead parts of said Fig. 3 shows lead parts 14A, 16A, 18A and 20A led out to front surface of the dielectric device and lead parts 22A, 24A, 26A and 28A led out to the back surface of the dielectric device. In other words, the lead parts of Fig. 3 are led out to two different surfaces of the dielectric device. Further, other examples in Togashi also disclose lead parts lead out to two or more surfaces of the dielectric body.

To the contrary, the application discloses lead parts led out to only one surface of dielectric body. It is shown in Fig. 1 of the application wherein the first lead part 14A and the second lead part 16A are led out toward only the bottom surface 12B of dielectric body 12.

Therefore, the subject matter recited in the rejected claims has following effects.

By leading out lead parts to only one surface of the dielectric body, when mounting the multilayer capacitor on the board becomes easier, in the case where the stacking direction of the dielectric layers extends along the surface of the board. That is, it becomes easier to structure the capacitor so that the surfaces of the internal conductor layers are perpendicular to the surface of the board on which the multilayer capacitor is mounted. Further, along with this, the current loop becomes shorter and as a result the loop inductance is reduced (see paragraph [0026]).

Further, by forming terminal electrodes on one surface of the electrode body, it is possible to reduce to the minimum necessary extent of the solder for connecting these electrodes to the interconnect layer of the board and possible to suppress to a minimum the effects of thermal distortion (see paragraph [0027]).

These features of the rejected claims are not disclosed in Togashi or any other reference of record.

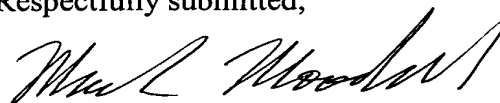
For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1, 3-14, 16-29 and 31-33 as being anticipated by Togashi be withdrawn.

In section 6 on pages 9-10, the Office Action rejects claims 15 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Togashi. Claims 15 and 30 are allowable based at least on their dependence from claim 1 for the reasons stated above in connection with the rejection of claim 1. For at least this reason, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 15 and 30 as being unpatentable over Togashi be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1 and 4-33 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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